



# **Massachusetts Dredging Program 2021 Grant Round Information Session**

---

***March 2, 2021***



# Agenda

---

- Overview
- Program Requirements
- Submitting an Application
- Evaluation Information
- Final Reminders and Tips
- Other EOHED Resources
- Q&A



# Overview – Background

- Commonwealth's first annual, competitive grant program with focused funding to support saltwater dredging.
- Successor program to the MassWorks 2018 Navigational Dredging Pilot Program (also the first of its kind).
- Authorized as a standalone capital grant program in the 2018 Economic Development Bond Bill.
- Responds to dredging needs that promote the **Blue Economy**...
  - Fisheries                      ○ Transportation
  - Recreation                  ○ Tourism
  - Public Safety                ○ Coastal Resilience



Commonwealth's *Partnerships for Growth* economic development plan, signed by Governor Baker in Dec. 2019.

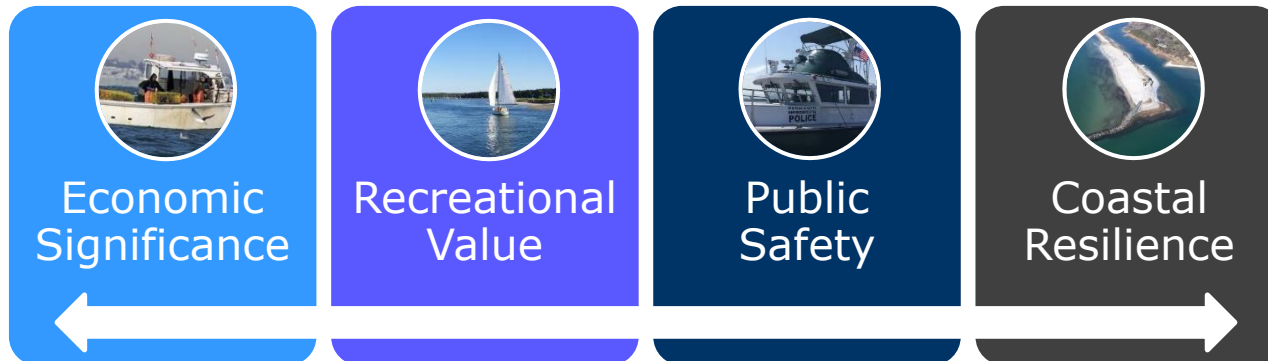
The **Blue Economy** is the sustainable use of ocean resources for economic growth, improved livelihoods and jobs, and enhanced quality of life.

# Overview – The Basics

- One-year construction grants for saltwater dredging in public tidelands.
- Administered by EOHED.
- Supports the long-term strength and sustainability of Massachusetts's coastal harbors and blue economy.
- Focus on shovel-ready projects that contribute to one or more of the following...



Hingham Harbor Maintenance Dredging Project (2019).



## Overview – Past Awards

- **Over \$11 million awarded since 2019** for 13 public projects.
- **Over \$16 million leveraged** in matching funds.
- **+/-385,000 cubic yards estimated to be removed** from 95 acres of public tidelands.
- Projects have supported...
  - **500+ commercial vessels.**
  - **5,800+ moorings and dockage slips.**
  - **50+ harbor-dependent businesses/organizations.**



Baker-Polito Administration Announces 2019 Massachusetts Dredging Program Awards in Hingham (2019).

385,000 cubic yards is roughly  
equivalent to the volume of  
**117 Olympic swimming pools.**



# Program Requirements – Eligibility and Funding

## Who's eligible to apply?

- Commonwealth's 78 coastal municipalities.
- Limit of one application per municipality.

## What's eligible for funding?

- Construction-phase dredging in public tidelands.
- Funds are disbursed on a cost-reimbursement basis.
- Reimbursable costs include bidding, construction, and construction administration.
- "Pre-construction costs" – study, design, engineering, permitting, and/or real property transactions – are not eligible for reimbursement. Municipalities are encouraged to consult the [Seaport Economic Council \(SEC\) Grant Program](#) for potential funding opportunities to support these costs.



Manchester Harbor – First EOHED-Funded  
Dredging Project.

*Source: Manchester-by-the-Sea Visioning for the Master Plan,  
November 2016.*

## How much is available ?

- Maximum amount that may be requested is \$2.5 million per municipality.
- Partial awards may be considered.



## Program Requirements – Non-State Match

- Grants require a minimum 50% non-state funding match.
- Multiple non-state funding sources may be used, including...
  - Federal grants.
  - Municipal funds.
  - Private contributions.
- Pre-construction expenses and in-kind contributions are not eligible for use as matching funds but may be considered in the overall assessment of an application if the expenses were incurred in the last three fiscal years.



Dredging of Cotuit Bay at Sampson's Island in Barnstable –  
2018 Navigational Dredging Pilot Project.

Source: YouTube, "Dredging of Cotuit Bay and Sampson's Island Part Three,"  
Drone guy, published Jan-1-2019. Accessed Feb-15-2019 at [youtu.be/QHxjHM47phY](https://youtu.be/QHxjHM47phY).





# Program Requirements – Contracting

- Successful applicants must submit...
  - Match documentation.
  - All permits and drawings.
- Anticipated start date for grant contracts is July 1st.
- **All grant funds must be expended by June 30, 2022, so shovel readiness is critical.**
- In measuring shovel readiness, EOHED will consider:
  - Is the design fully funded?
  - Are all permits secured?
  - Are all match funds secured?
  - Is the project schedule realistic?



Dredging of Cotuit Bay at Sampson's Island in Barnstable  
– 2018 Navigational Dredging Pilot Project.

Source: YouTube, "Dredging of Cotuit Bay and Sampson's Island Part Two,"  
Drone guy, published Dec-29-2018. Accessed Feb-15-2019 at  
[youtu.be/0VMSNrI-Ylo](https://youtu.be/0VMSNrI-Ylo).



# Program Requirements – Grant Management

- Quarterly performance reports.
- Payments will be disbursed for actual work completed as documented by invoices.
- Other deliverables include...
  - Bid plans and bid tabulations.
  - Construction contracts and change orders.
  - Post-dredge survey(s).
  - Project closeout form.
- 5% of award will be held as retainage until contract closeout.



Beach nourishment at Deck Neck Island in Barnstable –  
2018 Navigational Dredging Pilot Project.



# Submitting an Application

- Applications are due via electronic submission no later than **March 17, 2021 11:59 pm.**
  - No late submissions will be accepted.
  - No paper submissions will be accepted.
  - Applications must be typed.



South River Maintenance Dredging Project in Marshfield and Scituate – 2018 Navigational Dredging Pilot Project.



# Submitting an Application – App. Components

---

## The application has seven sections...

1. Project Summary – A snapshot of the project.
2. Harbor Profile – Describe the characteristics, economic significance, and environmental justice benefits of the harbor.
3. Project Description – Describe need, scope, benefits, and shovel readiness of the project.
4. Project Cost and Funding Sources – Complete a project cost table and describe funding sources.
5. Supporting the Blue Economy (*largest section*) – Detail existing conditions and anticipated benefits for **(1) Commercial Fishing/Boating, (2) Recreational Boating, (3) Public Safety, and/or (4) Coastal Resilience.**
6. Preparing for Success – Describe planning efforts, municipal funds, maintenance plans, and any commitments from private partners to the extent applicable.
7. Certification of Authorization – **No signature required!**



# Submitting an Application – Attachments

---

## Required attachments...

- **Site plan!** This should be a satellite image or nautical chart that clearly identifies the project site(s).
- Copies of **permits and permit modifications** approved to date, including plans/drawings.
- Statements of Collaboration from joint municipal applicants, if applicable.
- Letters of Commitment from private parties, required only if the project will generate private investment in additional dredging projects, commercial vessels, and/or harbor-dependent jobs.
  - **NOTE:** *These are not letters of support. These are commitment letters promising to invest private dollars.*

## Optional attachments...

- Graphic documents (maps, figures, photographs, etc.) will be accepted but should be reasonable in number.
- Optional attachments are reviewed but not formally evaluated.
- **No additional attachments should be submitted unless otherwise requested.**



# Submitting an Application – How to Apply

---

1. Visit the program's [How to Apply](#) page.
2. Download and read the RFP.
3. Download and complete the application on your desktop computer.
4. Once complete, save your application and attachments in a common folder on your computer.
5. Label each file using the **File Naming System outlined in the RFP**. **Examples of file names are provided in the RFP.**
6. Upload and electronically submit your application and attachments through the program's [How to Apply](#) page.
7. A confirmation message will be sent to the email address provided in your submission.



# Submitting an Application – How to Apply

## When completing your application...

- Do NOT delete any original text; only add text in fillable fields.
- Fillable fields include...
  - Grey text fields.
  - Check boxes.
  - Tables.
  - Answer boxes: “Click here to enter text.”
- Answer boxes and tables will automatically expand as needed.

**SECTION I. PROJECT SUMMARY**

1.1 Applicant Municipality (Public Entity): Type here. ← Gray Text Field

1.2 Applicant CEO Name and Title: Type here.

1.3 Legal Address: Type here.

1.4 City: Type here. 1.5 State: MA 1.6 Zip Code: Type here.

1.7 Application Point of Contact (POC) Name and Title: Type here.

1.8 POC Email: Type here.

1.9 POC Phone: Type here.

1.10 Project Name: Type here.

1.11 Total Project Cost: Type here. \*  
**\*Please Note:** Amount must match Table 4.1 in Section IV.

1.12 Grant Amount Requested: Type here. \*  
**\*Please Note:** Amount must match Table 4.1 in Section IV.

1.13 Is this a joint application between municipalities?  
☐ Yes ☐ No ← Check Box

1.14 If yes, please list the additional municipalities participating in this application. In addition, please attach a statement of collaboration from each additional municipality.

Click here to enter text. ← Answer Box



# Submitting an Application – How to Apply

## When uploading your application and attachments...

- Follow the link available on the program's [How to Apply](#) page.
- **Your application and attachments must be submitted one after another in a single sitting.** You cannot upload some files and return later to upload more.
- Follow the on-screen instructions.
- After uploading your application, you must select the number of attachments to be uploaded (see screenshot on right).
- **You can always click “Previous” to go back at any time.**

**Upload Application** ← You upload your application on this page.

Upload Your Completed Dredging Application.

1. Click "Choose File."
2. Click on the file you want to upload.
3. Click Open. *Part of the file name should appear on the screen*
4. Select the number of attachments to be uploaded below.
5. Click "Next" to proceed.

No File Chosen

Select number of attachments to be uploaded.

If more than 12 attachments, contact Nicholas Bulens at 617-788-3620 or [ehedgrants@mass.gov](mailto:ehedgrants@mass.gov) for supplemental instructions.

← After uploading your application, use this dropdown bar to choose the number of attachments.

Number of Attachments.

Click Next to Proceed

← Click Previous to go back at any time.





# Submitting an Application – Helpful Tips

- Support your statements with examples, numbers, and other data when asked or when available. Not all statements speak for themselves.
- Complete all sections! We cannot evaluate what is not answered.
- Provide complete, straight forward responses. Repetition in answers across different sections and narratives can be OK.
- There are no word or character limits. Please provide complete answers but be mindful of length.
- For ease, applicants may wish to type answers in a separate Word document and copy and paste into answer boxes later.



Pamet Harbor in Truro – 2018 Navigational Dredging Pilot Project Site.

*Source: State of Our Harbors Report 2015, prepared by UMass Boston Urban Harbors Institute and Apex Companies for MA DCR.*



# Evaluation Information – Award Decisions

- Evaluation Committee composed of staff from EOHED and the Massachusetts Office of Coastal Zone Management (CZM).
- Committee will prepare a list of recommended awards based on...
  - Evaluation criteria.
  - Amount of funding available.
  - Urgency of need.
- Broad and equitable distribution of limited funding may also be considered.
- List is subject to approval by HED Secretary and to ratification by Governor and Lt. Governor.



Baker-Polito Administration Announces Dredging Assistance for Gloucester's Annisquam River (2019).

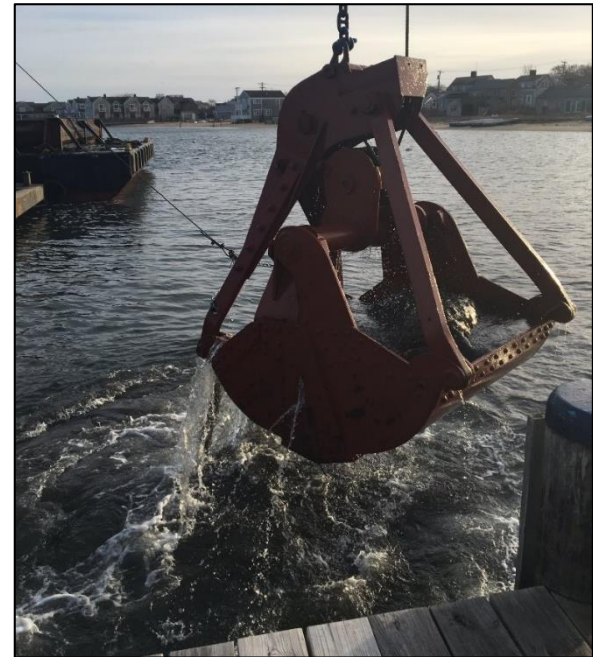
All applicants will be notified in writing of an award or non-award decision.

# Evaluation Information – Evaluation Criteria

In assessing applications and recommending awards, the Evaluation Committee will consider and weigh...

- **Harbor Profile**

- Characteristics consistent with a developed harbor (berth areas, launch ramps, off-loading facilities, harbor-dependent businesses, etc.).
- Characteristics consistent with a downtown or community waterfront (public spaces, recreational boating resources, restaurants, retail shops, commercial zoning, etc.).
- Benefits of the harbor for an [Environmental Justice population](#) and/or similar vulnerable populations.

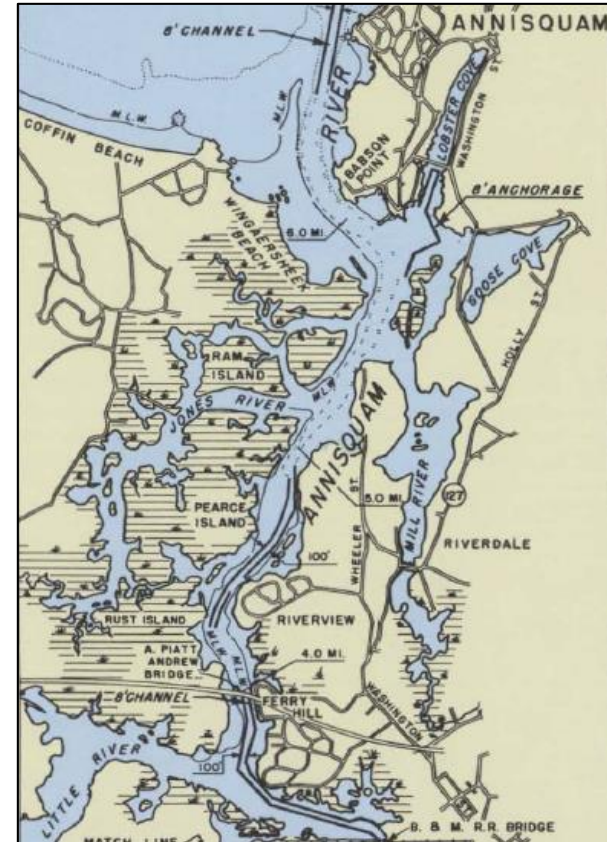


Nantucket Pier Dredging Project (2019).

Source: Twitter, @ackharbormaster, published Dec-13-2019. Accessed Feb-27-2020 at <https://twitter.com/ackharbormaster>.

# Evaluation Information – Evaluation Criteria

- **Project Description**
  - Strength of the project need.
  - Feasibility of the project scope of work.
  - Evidence of shovel readiness.
- **Budget and Funding Sources**
  - Extent to which pre-construction costs have been funded.
  - Demonstration of a 50% or greater non-state funding match.
  - Evidence that all match funds have or will be secured.



Annisquam River Federal Navigation Map.

Source: USACE. Accessed Jan-29-2021 at <https://www.nae.usace.army.mil/Missions/Navigation/Massachusetts-Projects/>.





# Evaluation Information – Evaluation Criteria

- **Supporting the Blue Economy** – Evaluated using the following categories and criteria. While projects strong in multiple categories will generally be more competitive, **projects are not required to excel in all or any set number of categories to be considered for funding.**



Source: MA Division of Marine Fisheries Strategic Plan 2010-2014.



Plymouth Harbor  
Source: State of Our Harbors Report 2015.



Lake Tashmoo Channel, Tisbury.  
Source: State of Our Harbor Report 2015.

## 1. Commercial Fishing/Boating

- Presence of commercial fishing, aquaculture/shellfishing, and/or commercial boating activities.
- Strength of the project's support for commercial fishing/boating activities.

## 2. Recreational Boating

- Presence of a region-wide boating public as evidenced by launch ramps, public parking facilities, and/or transient boating accommodations.
- Strength of the project's support for recreational boating and/or waterfront activities.

# Evaluation Information – Evaluation Criteria

## 3. Public Safety

- Demonstration of an actual or imminent risk to public safety due to shoaling.
- Strength of the project's support for public safety as measured by a reduction in risk or an increase in emergency responsiveness.



Source: MA Environmental Police Facebook Page, accessed Feb-19-2019.

## 4. Coastal Resilience

- Strength of the project's support for preserving, protecting, restoring, and/or reinforcing coastal resources (barrier beaches, wetland resources, water quality, etc.).
- Demonstration of how dredged material will be beneficially reused, if applicable.
- Demonstration of how the project aligns with a city or town's Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP) plan, if applicable.



Dead Neck Island in Barnstable before beach nourishment (2018).  
Source: Barnstable Clean Water Coalition.



Dead Neck Island in Barnstable after beach nourishment (2019).  
Source: Barnstable Clean Water Coalition.

# Evaluation Information – Evaluation Criteria

- **Preparing for Success**
  - Demonstration of how the municipality will sustain the benefits of the project as evidenced by a dredging maintenance plan, local planning documents, and/or revenue from harbor- and/or waterway-related fees.
  - Demonstration that the project will generate private investment in additional dredging projects, commercial vessels, and/or harbor-dependent jobs as evidenced by letters of commitment, if applicable.

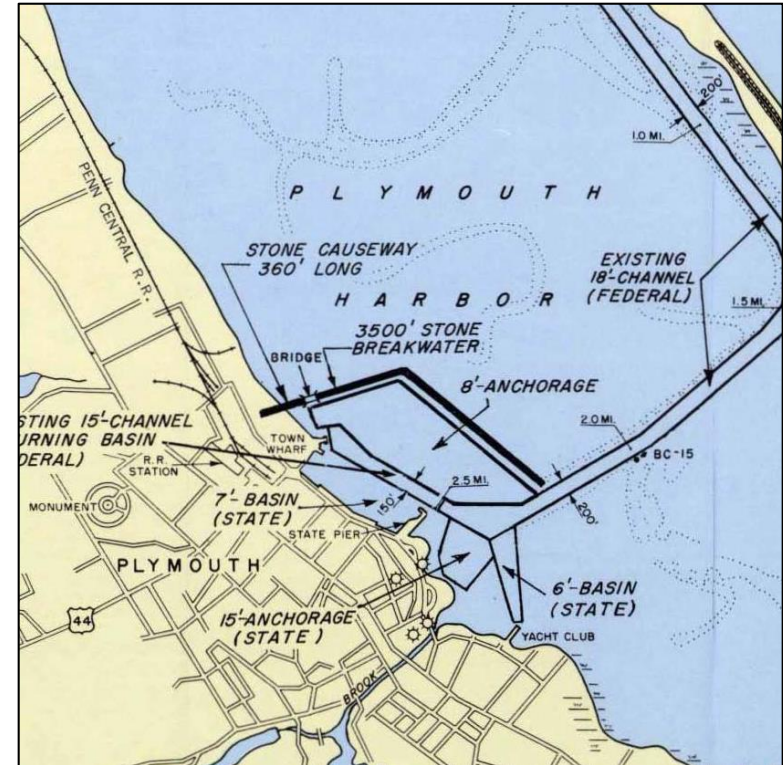


Baker-Polito Administration Celebrates Polpis Harbor and Town Pier Dredging Projects on Nantucket (2019).



# Evaluation Information – Additional Considerations

- **Additional considerations encompassed by the evaluation criteria include...**
  - Match commitment above and beyond the minimum 50%.
  - Length of time since last dredging.
  - Need for phasing and importance of the proposed phase, if applicable.
  - Proposed new moorings or dockage slips.
  - Life expectancy of the project and future maintenance plans.



Plymouth Harbor Federal Navigation Map.

Source: USACE. Accessed Feb-10-2021 at  
<https://www.nae.usace.army.mil/Missions/Navigation/Massachusetts-Projects/>.



# Final Reminders and Tips

- All awards must be expended by **June 30, 2022.**
- Read the RFP in full.
- Review the evaluation criteria.
- Complete all sections and provide examples, numbers, and other data to support statements when asked or when available.



Governor Charlie Baker, Lt. Governor Karyn Polito, and HED Secretary Mike Kennealy join Mayor Jon Mitchell at New Bedford Harbor (2019).

## Other EOHED Resources

- Coastal municipalities are encouraged to consult the [Seaport Economic Council \(SEC\) Grant Program](#) for potential funding opportunities to support...
  - **Dredging design and permitting (NEW!).**
  - Municipal Harbor Plans and Designated Port Area (DPA) Master Plans.
  - Design and/or construction of public coastal infrastructure (piers, boat ramps, public safety buildings, etc.)
- **Next deadline for SEC grant applications is May 1, 2021.**



Baker-Polito Administration Celebrates Completion of Maritime Center in Marshfield (2018).

**Contact Information:**  
Ellen Cebula, Director  
[ellen.cebula@mass.gov](mailto:ellen.cebula@mass.gov)  
508-999-3030



## Q&A

---

- General questions regarding the RFP will be accepted via electronic mail **through March 4, 2021 11:59 PM.**
- Send questions to [eoledgrants@mass.gov](mailto:eoledgrants@mass.gov) with subject line “Dredging RFP.”
- EOLED will respond only to general questions and reserves the right not to respond to any or all questions.
- Similar questions may be aggregated and answered via a single response.
- Answers will be posted on the program’s [How to Apply](#) page.
- **Staff will assist with technical difficulty questions up to 5:00 pm on the due date.**





## Q&A

---

**Thank you for attending!**

### Massachusetts Dredging Program

The Massachusetts Dredging Program is the Commonwealth's first grant program with focused funding to support saltwater dredging. This program promotes the strength and sustainability of the Commonwealth's blue economy.

[www.mass.gov/massachusetts-dredging-program](http://www.mass.gov/massachusetts-dredging-program)